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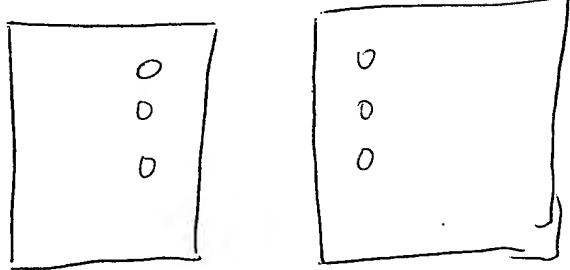
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June 6, 2002

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Jean M. Correlius
 Patent Examiner
 Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Schoenwolf, et al. application for patent
 filed March 31, 1999, USSN 09/282,145
 Our Case No.: 0112740-638



Ms. Correlius:

The following comments are being submitted, for your reference, in anticipation of our scheduled telephone interview of June 11, 2002, at 11:00 a.m. EST.

Claims 1-2,4-13 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,582). Applicants respectfully submit the following amended form of independent claim 1 as a basis for discussion during our upcoming interview:

1. (Thrice Amended) A data base for storing persistent data, comprising:
 a buffer into which is written persistent data to be permanently stored;
 a permanent memory connected to the buffer, the permanent memory having at least two storage units, into which the persistent data is alternately written so that a current set of the persistent data is stored in a storage unit and a preceding set of the persistent data is stored in another storage unit, each storage unit being structured to store a complete permanent configuration for at least one of:
 (a) functions,
 (b) characteristics, and;

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(c) a hardware implementation, of a terminal or cards of the terminal, at least one of the permanent configurations stored having a complete configuration available and being selected for hardware implementation.

The present invention relates to a data base for persistent or permanent data comprising a buffer store into which all data to be stored permanently is written, and comprising a permanent store connected to the buffer store, which exhibits at least two storage units or storage areas where the persistent data from the buffer store is alternately stored. Alternately storing the permanent data into at least two different storage units ensures that a current set of the persistent data is stored in one storage unit and a preceding set of the persistent data is stored in another storage unit. If problems occur during the storing of new persistent data, the last set of the persistent data is still available. Johnson does not disclose, suggest or teach alternately storing the persistent data into at least two different units.

Johnson discloses a method and apparatus for creating shared persistent objects. (Col. 3, 25-39). Johnson teaches that persistent data must be stored in files on a disk or other storage medium by the file manager. (Col. 2, 17-18). The Examiner refers to Fig. 2 of Johnson which depicts a shared persistent virtual storage system 190 which includes a virtual storage manager 208, a virtual address translator 210, a page cache 2112, and a pager 214. While Fig. 2 illustrates two "backing stores," nowhere does Johnson disclose, suggest or teach storing two sets of the persistent data in an alternating manner in two separate storing units so as to create a current set and a preceding set of the persistent data. Applicant respectfully submits that Johnson does not disclose the present invention.

Very truly yours,



Maurice E. Teixeira

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